

Name: _____ Date: _____

Polynomial Factoring solution (version 665)

1. The quadratic formula says if $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ then $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$. Use the quadratic formula to solve the following equation.

$$x^2 + 12x + 54 = 0$$

Simplify your answer(s) as much as possible.

Solution

$$x = \frac{-(12) \pm \sqrt{(12)^2 - 4(1)(54)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-(12) \pm \sqrt{144 - 216}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-12 \pm \sqrt{-72}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{-12 \pm \sqrt{-36 \cdot 2}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{-12 \pm 6\sqrt{2}i}{2}$$

$$x = -6 \pm 3\sqrt{2}i$$

Notice that i is NOT under the square-root radical symbol!!

2. Express the product of $6 - 4i$ and $9 - 7i$ in standard form $(a + bi)$.

Solution

$$(6 - 4i) \cdot (9 - 7i)$$

$$54 - 42i - 36i + 28i^2$$

$$54 - 42i - 36i - 28$$

$$54 - 28 - 42i - 36i$$

$$26 - 78i$$

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3. Write function $f(x) = x^3 - 5x^2 - 12x + 36$ in factored form. I'll give you a hint: one factor is $(x - 2)$.

Solution

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} & 1 & -5 & -12 & 36 \\ 2 & & 2 & -6 & -36 \\ \hline & 1 & -3 & -18 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = (x - 2)(x^2 - 3x - 18)$$

$$f(x) = (x - 2)(x - 6)(x + 3)$$

4. Polynomial p is defined below in factored form.

$$p(x) = -(x + 3)^2 \cdot (x - 1) \cdot (x - 6)^2$$

Sketch a graph of polynomial $y = p(x)$.

